

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): An aqueous coating composition comprising polycarbonate polyols **A2** and a polyurethane chain-extended with compounds **D** which are at least difunctional with respect to isocyanates, said polyurethane comprising building blocks of hydroxy acids **C** and urethane groups derived from polyfunctional isocyanates **B** and said polyurethane containing blocks derived from polyene polyols **A1** and from polycarbonate polyols **A2** wherein a mass fraction of from 1 % to 20 % of the mass of the said polycarbonate polyols **A2** is chemically bonded to the reaction product formed from the said polyene polyols **A1**, the said polyfunctional isocyanates **B** and the said hydroxy acids **C**.
2. (original): The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mass ratio of blocks derived from polyene polyols **A1** to blocks derived from polycarbonate polyols **A2** is from 1:8 to 4:5.
3. (original): The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1, whose acid number is at least 15 mg/g.

4. (original): The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the isocyanates **B** are aliphatic linear, branched or cyclic isocyanates.

5. (original): The aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratio of the amount of substance of the isocyanate-reactive groups of the chain extenders **D** to the amount of substance of the isocyanate groups in the isocyanate-functional prepolymers is from 0.5:1 to 1:1.

6. (currently amended): A process for preparing an aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1, which comprises in the first step a) preparing an isocyanate-functional prepolymer from the polyene polyols **A1**, the hydroxy acids **C**, and the polyfunctional isocyanates **B** and in the second step b) mixing said prepolymer with the polycarbonate polyol **A2** and, after an at least partial reaction, in the third step c) dispersing this mixture with water containing a chain extender **D** wherein a mass fraction of from 1 % to 20 % of ~~the mass of~~ the said polycarbonate polyols **A2** is chemically bonded to the reaction product formed from the said polyene polyols **A1**, the said polyfunctional isocyanates **B** and the said hydroxy acids **C**.

7. (previously presented): The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein, in the reaction in step c), from 2 % to 15 % of the polycarbonate polyol **A2** reacts with the isocyanate-functional prepolymer to form an adduct.

8. (original): The process as claimed in claim 6, wherein the isocyanate-functional prepolymer prepared in step a) has a Staudinger index of at least 18 cm³/g.

9. (original): A method of use of an aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1 to produce soft coatings, comprising coating substrates selected from metal, plastic, wood, stone, and concrete with the coating composition as claimed in claim 1 and an isocyanato-containing crosslinking agent.

10. (original): A substrate coated with an aqueous coating composition as claimed in claim 1.